

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 ACDA-12 /093 W

-----041882 071701Z /53

O R 071610Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7072

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 695

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: ARTICLES ON "EXPLANATORY NOTE" TO  
WESTERN PROPOSAL

THERE FOLLOWS COMPLETE TEXT OF WC ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED  
IN THE ARGUS AND THE STAR OF APRIL 7, STATING THAT SOUTH  
AFRICAN HOPES FOR A NAMIBIAN SETTLEMENT HAVE BEEN BOUYED  
BY AN "EXPLANATORY NOTE" GIVEN TO THE SAG AT THE SAME  
TIME AS THE SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL.

QUOTE: AN EXTENSIVE EXPLANATORY NOTE ON THE WESTERN  
PROPOSALS FOR AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENCE  
FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA WAS HANDED CONFIDENTIALLY TO THE  
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SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT IN CAPE TOWN LAST WEEK.

THIS DIRECT ELUCIDATION OF MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS IN THE DISPUTE  
IS GIVING RISE TO HOPES IN SWA THAT FULL AGREEMENT COULD BE  
REACHED IF THE WEST WERE PREPARED TO WRITED ITS ASSURANCES  
CONTAINED IN THE DOCUMENT INTO ITS FORMAL PROPOSALS.

DETAILS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE WERE CONVEYED TO SWA LEADERS IN TOUCH WITH THE GOVERNMENT. THESE DETAILS HAVE NOW COME TO LIGHT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WINDHOEK TODAY.

#### MODIFICATIONS

THE MESSAGE IS SAID TO LEAN FAR MORE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S SIDE THAN IS EVIDENT FROM THE FORMAL WESTERN PLAN. IT ALSO CONTAINS MODIFICATIONS OF IMPORTANT POINTS: THESE INCLUDE:

--ACCEPTANCE THAT LEGAL DISPUTES OF THE PAST MUST BE SET ASIDE;

--MAKING THE WISHES OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF SWA PARAMOUNT, REGARDLESS OF RACE;

--RECOGNITION THAT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION IN SWA SHOULD REMAIN DURING THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD;

--THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AND THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE "WORKING TOGETHER" WITH A JOINT ROLE IN ASSESSING THE QUESTION OF TERRORIST INFILTRATION AND INTIMIDATION;

--A VERBAL INTIMATION THAT, WHILE POLICE WOULD BE ALLOWED ONLY SMALL ARMS IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR DUTIES, OTHER ARMS WOULD BE ALLOWED IN ABNORMAL CONDITIONS.

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#### LOST ARGUMENTS

READ TOGETHER WITH THE FORMAL PROPOSALS, THERE IS THE BELIEF THAT SWAPO HAS LOST A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ARGUMENTS.

THESE INCLUDE THEIR CLAIM TO WALVIS BAY, THEIR WISH FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL AND HIS ADMINISTRATION TO WITHDRAW THEIR WISH FOR THE POLICE TO LEAVE, THEIR DEMAND THAT ALL TROOPS LEAVE IMMEDIATELY (THERE IS EVEN A TACIT UNDERSTANDING IN THE WEST'S ATTITUDE THAT TROOPS MIGHT NOT HAVE TO LEAVE AT ALL IF ASKED BY THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO STAY.)

AN INTRIGUING ASPECT OF THE MESSAGE IS THE APPARENT ACCEPTANCE BY THE WEST THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MAY REJECT ASPECTS OF THE FORMAL PROPOSALS, BUT THERE IS A STRONG PLEA THAT THE PLAN SHOULD NOT BE REJECTED OUT OF HAND.

#### HELPFUL

THE PURPOSE OF THE MESSAGE WAS THAT "IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO EXPLAIN THE GENERAL THINKING BEHIND OUR PROPOSALS AND TO COMMENT ON THE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES WE HAVE IDENTIFIED."

SIGNIFICANT EXCERPTS FROM THE MESSAGE INCLUDE: "WE FIRMLY

BELIEVE THAT A PEACEFUL AND REALISTIC SETTLEMENT IS POSSIBLE  
BOTH FOR YOU AND THE UN IF ALL SIDES ARE PREPARED TO SET ON ONE  
SIDE THE LONGSTANDING LEGAL DISPUTES."

"WE ARE SURE YOU WOULD AGREE WITH US THAT IT IS IN THE INTERESTS  
OF EVERYONE THAT THE WISHES OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA  
WHATEVER THEIR RACE OR POLITICAL PARTY ARE OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE."

"WE WANT NAMIBIA TO PROCEED TO EARLY AND ASSURED INDEPENDENCE  
FOLLOWING FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS TO ELECT A CONSTITUENT  
ASSEMBLY. WE BASE THIS ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385  
WHICH CALLED FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS." UNQUOTE.  
BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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